

# MATTHEW



## Lesson 13 | The Parables of the Kingdom

Matthew 13:1-52

The Kingdom of Heaven will be opposed but will overcome

- The Kingdom of Heaven will be opposed
  - Internal Opposition: the Parable of the Sower
  
  - External Opposition: the Parable of the Weeds
  
- The Kingdom of Heaven will overcome
  - The Sower: The word of the Kingdom will \_\_\_\_\_!
  
  - The Weeds: The sons of the Kingdom will be \_\_\_\_\_ from the sons of the evil one!
  
  - The Mustard Seed and Leaven: The Kingdom will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the whole world!
  
  - The Treasure and the Pearl: The Kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_!
  
  - The Net: The evil will be \_\_\_\_\_ from the righteous!

1. Be Receptive (see info on reverse side if you want to study this more)

2. Be Realistic

3. Retell the Old Story (Colossians 1:25b-27; Romans 16:25-27)

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Some resources & scripture to help you understand Matthew 13

- <https://www.gotquestions.org/he-who-has-ears-to-hear.html>
- Word Study: What does it mean, in this context, to “hear”?
  - **31.56 ἀκούω<sup>d</sup>; ἀκοή<sup>e</sup>, ἦς f:** to believe something and to respond to it on the basis of having heard—‘to accept, to listen to, to listen and respond, to pay attention and respond, to heed.’<sup>1</sup>
- Some Scripture passages where the ideas of hearing / seeing / hearts understanding are are fleshed out:
  - a. Deuteronomy 10:12-16; Deuteronomy 29:2-4, 30:1-6
    - i. Israel is called to circumcise their heart so that they can obey the Lord (Responsibility), and Moses also affirms that God is the one who will circumcise their heart!
  - b. Isaiah 5:1-6:10; Jeremiah 5:18-23; Ezekiel 12:1-6
    - i. Isaiah’s ministry (Isaiah 6) to speak in such a way that Israel does not see, hear or understand is a ministry of judgment upon them because they have refused to obey (see Isaiah 5)
    - ii. Jeremiah 5:18-23 and Ezekiel 12:1-2 - the stubborn and rebellious hearts of Israel have caused them to not see, hear or understand & obey.
  - c. Psalm 115:4-8; Psalm 135-15-18
    - i. Idols have eyes that don’t see, ears that don’t hear, mouths that don’t speak. Those who worship idols become like them.
  - d. Romans 10:20-11:8; 2 Corinthians 3:12-18
    - i. Romans 10:20 - 11:8 Israel was a disobedient and contrary people they failed to listen / obey and therefore they were hardened
    - ii. 2 Corinthians 3:12-18 - a veil lays over Israel’s heart, but when someone turns to Jesus the veil is taken away
    - iii. 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 - the god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, but God shines the light of the gospel into people’s hearts.

**Re: Parables:** “It is naive to say Jesus spoke them so that everyone might more easily grasp the truth, and it is simplistic to say that the sole function of parables to outsiders was to condemn them. If Jesus simply wished to hide the truth from the outsiders, he need never have spoken to them.... he must preach without casting his pearls before pigs (7:6). He does so in parables: i.e., in such a way as to harden and reject those who are hard of heart and to enlighten—often with further explanation—his disciples.”<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). [\*Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains\*](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 372). New York: United Bible Societies.

<sup>2</sup> Carson, D. A. (1984). *Matthew*. In F. E. Gaebelin (Ed.), *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary: Matthew, Mark, Luke* (Vol. 8, pp. 309–310). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

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